Railway line between Talcher and Bimalagarh

216. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the construction of railway line between Talcher and Bimalagarh in Orissa;

(b) whether there is a growing demand for laying of the line via Palalhara; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to consider the diversion of the railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

पशुओं की नस्ल में गिरावट

217. **श्री रामजीलालः** क्या पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि देश में पशुओं की नस्ल में लगातार गिरावट आ रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो गत दो वर्षों के दौरान देश में पशुओं की नस्ल में उत्तरोत्तर सुधार करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए गए हैं;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इस गिरावट के कारण दूध के उत्पादन में आवश्यक वृद्धि नहीं हो सकी है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो देश में दूध की आवश्यकता के अनुरूप दूध के उत्पादन के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

पशुपालन और डेयरी विभाग के राज्य मंत्री **(डा॰ रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह):** (क) तथा (ख) देश में पशुओं की नस्ल में किसी प्रकार की गिरावट नहीं आई है।

पशुओं की नस्लों में लगातार सुधार लाने के लिए राष्ट्रीय सांड उत्पादन कार्यक्रम जैसी योजनाओं के माध्यम से लगातार विभिन्न उपाय किए गए हैं। पशुओं की नस्ल में सुधार लाने के लिए जो उपाय अपनाए जा रहे हैं उनमें ये शामिल हैंः संतति परिक्षण कार्यक्रम, उच्च गुणवत्ता के जर्म प्लाज्म का उत्पादन करने के लिए भ्रूण अंतरण प्रौद्योगिकी का प्रयोग, बेकार सांडों का बंध्याकरण तथा अच्छी गुणवत्ता वाले हिमित वीर्य का उपयोग करके कृत्रिम गर्भाधान के माध्यम से बेहतर प्रजनन को बढ़ावा देना।

(ग) उपरोक्त (क) तथा (ख) के उत्तर को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) बेहतर प्रजनन सुविधाएं प्रदान करके तथा पशुधन को अच्छे आहार तथा चारा उपलब्ध कराकर देश में दुग्ध उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने के लिए विभिन्न योजनाएं क्रियान्वित की जा रही हैं।

"Tar Balls and Oily Fragments along the West Coast"

218. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether presence of tar balls and oily fragments along the West Coast and Mumbai is cause of concern to swimmers and those who inhabit near sea coast;

(b) whether National Institute of Oceanography has mapped pollution along West Coast and found that sighting of tar balls and oily debris is highest along this coast;

(c) whether marine pollution in Mumbai region is aggravated by flow of daily raw sewage into sea and untreated factory effluents add to the problem; and

(d) what steps commensurate with the problem are contemplated by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD: (a) No, Sir.

(b) The national Institute of Oceanography is monitoring the coastal waters of India between Okha and Cape Comorin periodically under Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction Systems Programme. The results do not

indicate any alarming levels of dissolved and dispersed petroleum hydrocarbons in the waters of the open coast. The concentration of petroleum hydrocarbons in the seafloor sediments is also low.

(c) The inshore waters of Mumbai are under considerable strain due to indiscriminate release of domestic waste water. Large volumes of waste water are presently released in Thane, Mahim, Versova creeks and also directly in the coastal waters. Creeks of Mahim and Versova present highly degraded marine environment, while the pollution is localised along the open shore and in Thane creek.

(d) Following steps have been taken by the Government:

(i) The Maharastra Pollution Control Board has asked the Municipal Corporation of Mumbai for complying with the requirements under the concerned conditins in respect of treatment and disposal of sewage effluents.

(ii) Schemes have been formulated for providing common effluent treatment facilities and disposal of sewage effluent deep into the sea.

(iii) Rules on Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), 1991 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 have been notified for regulating the developmental works within 500m from the coast line.

(iv) A regular water quality monitoring programme has been initiated to check the water quality.

Environmental Projects in Maharastra

219. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the ongoing and new environmental projects in Maharashtra and the progress achieved thereunder, projectwise, and provision of funds under the central sector schemes for the current financial year;

(b) the details of the progress achieved under these projects during the past five years, year-wise and project-wise and reasons for slow progress;

(c) the details of the projects proposed by the State Government and action taken thereon, projectwise; and

(d) the details of the projects proposed for World Bank assistance in Maharashtra and their present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (CAPT. **JAI** NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) to (d) The details of the environmental projects started in Maharashra with central and World Bank assistance during the last five years including current financial year alongwith their progress are given at Annexure. *[Sec Appendix 179, Annexure No. 6]* All the projects have been proceeding satisfactorily.

Substandard meals in trains

220. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that meals supplied to the passengers particularly in the sleeper class are substandard and always cold despite the fact that the charges of the meals are very high;

(b) whether Government are aware that the standard of meals supplied in III tier AC or IInd Class AC is better than that in the sleeper class though the charges are same;

(c) the names of the trains in which catering facilities have been entrusted to contractors and departmental catering; and

(d) the reasons for handing over the catering facilities to contractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) A statement is attached. (see below).